

RACE REPORT – 24th May 2025

FINLAY AND ANTONIA WIN UKA SHORT COURSE FELL & HILL CHAMPIONSHIPS AT GRANITE PEAKS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Distance: 9.6km; **Climb:** 760 metres

Finlay Grant (Dark Peak Fell Runners) and Antonia Fan (Ambleside AC) claim gold at the UKA British Fell & Hill Championship (short course) in Northern Ireland.

The Northern Ireland Mountain Running Association (NIMRA) hosted the 2025 UK Athletics Short Course Hill and Fell Running Championships at the Granite Peaks Race. 75 runners tackled the 9.6km course with 760 metres of climb.

The race starts in Happy Valley in the Mourne Mountains and follows the Ulster Way before climbing the iconic Slieve Bearnagh (739 metres). The route then descends steeply to Polluphuca (Gap of the Malevolent Fairies) then climbs the peaks of Slieve Meelmore (687m) and Meelbeg (702m) and ends with a super-fast descent back to Happy Valley.

In a very close men's race, Finlay Grant (Dark Peak Fell Runners) took the win in 55:01, with Dan Dry (Shettleston Harriers) just three seconds behind in second place (55:04). Matthew Elkington (Ambleside AC) took the bronze medal (55:09).

Antonia Fan (Ambleside) took gold in the women's race (1:14:50), with Karen Wilton (Jog Lisburn Running Club, 1:15:12) in second and Rebecca Magee (Newcastle and District AC, 1:15:52) winning bronze.

Finlay Grant also took the under 23 men's gold medal, with Rebecca Magee (Newcastle & District AC) claiming the women's U23 gold.

The winners in the women's veteran categories were Rachel Pilling (Pudsey & Bramley AC, V40), Tricia Smith (Unattached, V45), Karen Wilton (Jog Lisburn Running Club, V50), Diane Wilson (Dromore AC, V50), Kathleen Monteverde (BARF, V60) and Anne Daykin (Clayton-le-Moors Harriers, V65).

The men's veteran gold medal winners were Ben Abdelnoor (Ambleside AC, V40), Ben Tetler (Glossopdale Harriers, V45), Shaun Godsman (Calder Valley Fell Runners, V50), Stephen Smithies (Calder Valley Fell Runners, V55), Paul Cornforth (Ambleside AC, V60), Colin Donnelly (Cambuslang Harriers, V65) and Brian Thompson (Helm Hill Runners, V70).

Thanks again to NIMRA for hosting the Championships. Full results on the [NIMRA website](#)

MEDAL WINNERS

CATEGORY	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
FEMALE	Antonia Fan Ambleside AC	Karen Wilton Jog Lisburn Running Club	Rebecca Magee Newcastle and District AC
F23	Rebecca Magee Newcastle and District AC	Meadow McCauley Portadown Running Club	

F40-44	Rachel Pilling Pudsey & Bramley AC		
F45-49	Tricia Smith Unattached	Hazel McLaughlin Lagan Valley AC	
F50-54	Karen Wilton Jog Lisburn Running Club	Mel Price Mercia Fell Runners	Lou Osborn Keswick AC
F55-59	Diane Wilson Dromore AC		
F60-64	Kathleen Monteverde BARF	Joanna Schreiber Pudsey & Bramley AC	
F65-69	Anne Daykin Clayton-le-Moors Harriers		
F70			
MALE	Finlay Grant Dark Peak Fell Runners	Dan Dry Shettleston Harriers	Matthew Elkington Ambleside AC
M23	Finlay Grant Dark Peak Fell Runners	George Baker Ambleside AC	Ashley Crutchley Newcastle and District AC
M40-44	Ben Abdelnoor Ambleside AC	Alex Whitem Calder Valley Fell Runners	Sam Herron Mourne Runners
M45-49	Ben Tetler Glossopdale Harriers	Mark O'Connor Calder Valley Fell Runners	Andrew Mott Westerlands Cross Country Club
M50-54	Shaun Godsman Calder Valley Fell Runners	Drew Sharkey Carnethy Hill Racing Club	Virgil Barton Calder Valley Fell Runners
M55-59	Stephen Smithies Calder Valley Fell Runners	Dean Ralphson Trawden Athletic Club	Mark Dugan Ballydrain Harriers
M60-64	Paul Cornforth Ambleside AC	Dale Mathers Mourne Runners	Paul Le Blanc Newry AC
M65-69	Colin Donnelly	John Langton	Mervyn Keys

	Cambuslang Harriers	Mercia Fell Runners	Rossendale Harriers & AC
M70	Brian Thompson	Michael McLoughlin	Andy Watts
	Helm Hill Runners	Preston Harriers	Cheshire Hill Racers